

**Lamar University – M.Ed. in Educational Technology Leadership**

## Course-based Embedded Hours Internship Log

***Directions:*** In submitting your Course-based Embedded Assignment Log for each Assignment in Appendix H of the Internship Handbook, you are required to reflect on the assignments by completing a reflection in your course wiki/e-portfolio that should contain a minimum of 300 words. These logs will be used to assist you in completing your EDLD 5370 Internship comprehensive exam final report. Students should use and cite their textbook references as well as two additional references when writing each reflection. The reflection must consist of statements regarding the knowledge you gained from the assignment and how the assignment helped you master the Technology Facilitator Standard(s) /Indicator(s).

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| Course Number: | Course Name: | Course-based Embedded Hours(see Appendix H |
| **EDLD 5326** | **School Community Relations** | **10 Hours** |

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| Description of theAssignment/Performance Tasks(see Appendix H) | * Students develop a plan for a family-school-community partnership(s) to increase student achievement. * Students develop a presentation to be given to key stakeholders in their school that emphasizes the importance of parental-community involvement to student achievement. |
| **Self –Assessment** 1. **Critically reflect** (see note above; not just recitation of facts) upon the knowledge you gained from the assignment.  **(3 Points)**  2. **Critically reflect** upon the relationship between any new information you gained from the assignment with old information you previously held to be true.  **(2 Points)**  3. How did the relationship between the old and new information you learned affect your personal experience with the assignment?  **(2 Points)  Learn as a Learner**  1. **Critically reflect** (see note above; not just recitation of facts) upon your approach and strategies used in completing the assignment. **(3 Points)**  2. **Critically reflect** upon how you learn as a learner and how you assess your own performance in completing the assignment(s). **(2 Points)**  3. How did your learning and interaction with colleagues (such as discussion forum, web conferences, wiki and blog participation, etc.) affect the results of your performance? **(2 Points)**  **Lifelong Learning Skills** 1. **Critically reflect** (see note above; not just recitation of facts) upon what you gained about learning and how you learn that will impact your future learning. **(3 Points)**  2. How will your past interactions and collaborations with colleagues impact your future learning experiences? **(2 Points)**  3. As a lifelong learner, what questions or issues challenge you and are worthy of future research or investigation? **(2 Points)  Additional Criteria** 1. Content posted to e-Portfolio wiki/blog/Google site **(1 Point)**  2. Mechanics **(1 Point)**  3. APA Format **(1 Point)**  4.Minimum of 3 References **(1 Point)**  **(max. 25 pts.)** | During the School Community Relations course we looked at different ways to involve the parents and the community in campus life. According to the National Education Association, “The research is clear, consistent, and convincing parent, family, and community involvement in education correlates with higher academic performance and school improvement” (NEA, 2088). I have learned about parent involvement through my personal expreiences as a parent. However, this course gave me the opprotuntiy to understand the impact of involved parents and community on the life and culture of a campus. As the campus leader I know that it would be important to gain support and concensus of parents and community organizations to offer new programs and to help faciliate changes to program and curriculum.  To complete this assignment I considered what areas of instruction could be improved by an imitative that would involve parents or the community. My proposal for school/district speaker’s bureau would bring experts from many different fields into the classroom. I had to reflect on why this was important and arrived at several reasons. One issue that is currently affecting our schools and our students is the rising costs of materials related to curriculum. Materials to enrich the classroom must be created by the teacher and resources used creatively. Textbooks are often out-of-date or non-existent. As educators we are tasked with preparing our students for the 21st century but all too often we have limited resources to present real world information. The initiation of a speaker’s bureau would offer teachers another means to present information to their students that is real and relevant since it will be provided by an expert who dedicated to a specific topic.  Services from the community can be used to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning and development. Speakers from the community would be solicited to offer their services as volunteers to the classroom teacher. Student achievement can improve when they have opportunities to learn real life skills and information from people that have experiences that are related to classroom learning.  This initiative can only be successful with a clear vision. The vision would be established through the collaborative effort of the school administration and individuals that have accepted the challenge to foster the initiative. In addition to a vision consistent feedback and reflective evaluation of the process, program and future of the initiative will be needed.  I did learn that there some drawbacks to an initiative in a middle school that includes parents and the community. According to Mavis Sanders there are several reasons why school/community partnerships don’t always work. He cited the following:   * School size and organizational structure * Parental attitudes about students needing help * Lack of district and state leadership on developing meaningful programs.   (Sanders, 2001)  At this point I want to learn more School Community Compacts. We have one at my current school but to my knowledge we don’t utilize parents or the community the way we should. The National Coalition of Parent Involvement in Education (NCPIE) offers an action guide to implementing more effective School Community Compacts. The guide cites specifically that, “If written effectively and with the input of all concerned parties, the compact can serve as a valuable tool to effectively and meaningfully engage the school and the home in supporting the academic development and needs of the students” (National Coaltionfor Parent Involvement in Education, 2004). This would be one goal in a leadership position. Seek out the parents and community to improvev local involvement in the educational process.  National Coaltionfor Parent Involvement in Education. (2004). *School parent compact.* Washington: Public Education Network.  NEA. (2088). *Parent, familiy, community involvlement in education.* Washington: NEA Policy and Practice Department.  Sanders, M. G. (2001, October). Schools, families, and communities partnering for middle level sstudents' success. *NASSP Bulletin* , pp. 53-61. |